Stop Loss control center activated

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Officials here have set up a central question and answer point about how Stop Loss applies to the nearly 10,000 people previously approved to retire or separate from active duty between now and April 30.

Experts at the Stop Loss control center are answering questions about retirements and separations for personnel flights, commanders and individuals who have specific Stop Loss questions.

Stop Loss gives military service secretaries authority to keep active-duty members who would normally be planning to retire or leave the service

More than 11,516 people have approved separation or retirement dates between today and April 30, officials said. There are 926 officers and 4,593 enlisted people with approved retirement dates that are now held by Stop Loss action; and 1,256 officers and 4,741 enlisted who have approved separation dates through the end of April.

Those numbers may include some who are exempt from Stop Loss as previously announced.

"So far, the attitude of the callers is impressive — we're not hearing from a lot of angry people," said Master Sgt. Mike Potter, superintendent of retirements. "People are concerned, but not angry."

"Our primary role is to assist and advise the major command personnel staffs and military personnel flights in the execution of the Stop Loss program," said Lt. Col. Rich Binger, AFPC separations branch chief. "We will work hand-in-hand with the [military personnel flight] retirements and separations sections to help people get the answers they need."

Local personnel flights will continue processing retirements and separations actions and are the first place to turn for those with Stop Loss questions, said Binger.

Based on the numerous calls received thus far, the control center staff has put together a frequently asked questions web page on the AFPC web site at http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil.

Military personnel flights or commander's support staffs, as well as interested individuals, can reach the control center at (210) 565-2374 or DSN 665-2374 daily from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., CST.

During the first 30 days, major command, personnel officials and career field managers are matching war fighting needs with the possibility that some career field Stop Loss restrictions could be lifted.

Waiver applications are also being accepted and will be evaluated individually by MAJCOM commanders, according to officials.

Some of those already far enough along in the process of leaving the Air Force are being allowed to outprocess.

Although all new departures from the Air Force are on hold, there are exemptions for people serving an overseas unaccompanied assignment where the tour length is 15 months or less, and who will retire or separate upon completion.

Other categories of people exempt are: those undergoing involuntary discharge or mandatory separation or retirement because of disabilities or hardships, officials said.

(Story provided by Air Force News Service.)

CFC accepts Wolf Pack donations

By Capt. Tara Parker Combined Federal Campaign

The 2001 "Make a World of Difference" Combined Federal Campaign runs through Nov. 16.

The CFC is an employee-focused, cost efficient and effective program used to promote philanthropy throughout the Department of Defense, giving all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

There are nearly 1,400 agencies approved through the CFC to which you can give. Of those, 25 groups of charities encompass everything from civil and human rights, the environment, health and medical research, military and veteran affairs and religious groups. There, literally, is an agency or charity to fit everyone's needs.

This year, there is a quick reference list of national agencies and charities directly involved in the terrorist relief efforts in New York and Washington. For a complete listing of these agencies, see your squadron's CFC key person or go online to http://www.opm.gov/cfc.

Making a contribution is made easier through payroll deduction. Using this method allows contributions to be spread over a year. In addition, the first payment won't be deducted until the first pay period of January 2002. The 8th Fighter Wing's goal is to get 50 percent participation among the base population.

Group and squadron representatives stand ready to take donations.

Lieutenant recieves UCMJ punishment

By Staff Sgt. Shawn Bauer 8th Fighter Wing Legal Office

A first lieutenant from the 8th Fighter Wing received punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice in September.

The lieutenant was found guilty of writing checks without maintaining sufficient funds to cover the checks in violation of Article 134, UCMJ.

The 7th Air Force vice commander imposed a punishment of 60 days restriction and a reprimand.

Article 134 is one of two check offenses under the UCMJ.

The Article 134 offense occurs when an individual's conduct, after receiving cash or merchandise for the check, reflects bad faith or gross indifference in his or her bank balance.

The other offense, Article 123a, occurs when an individual knows at the time of cashing the check that he or she will not have sufficient funds to cover payment when the check is presented to the bank, and thus cashes the check with the intent to defraud or deceive.

Visitor sign-in policy at Kunsan explained

The following describes the visitor sign-in policy at Kunsan.

-Visitors can't recieve authorized to enter the installation via telephone. Sponsors must be present to sign the visitor on and off the installation. The sponsor must be with the visitor at all times.

-Personnel will not sign visitors and guests onto the installation during increased Force Protection Conditions Charlie or Delta. During exercises, visitors may be signed on base but sponsors are responsible for ensuring guests follow exercise rules

-All sponsors must be at least 18 years of age and possess a valid Department Defense Form 2 series identification, DD Fm 1173 or a DOD civilian ID card. Base employees possessing valid United States Forces Korea identification passes marked for escort authority may escort personnel for official functions. The ID card will specify how many visitors can be escorted at one time. Guests will await their sponsor's arrival in the visitor control center hallway.

-Visitors will be checked against the list of designated countries

denied access to U.S. Forces Korea installations (USFK Reg 190-7, table 6.1a) and designated countries of counterintelligence concern (USFK Reg 190-7, table 6.1b). All visitors of the nationality listed in either table will be denied access to the installation. Official government ID cards must be used for identification verification of all base visitors. Korean nationals will use their Korean ID. Non- Koreans, to include U.S. citizens, will use their passports and alien registration card provided by the Korean government. After identification verification, the visitor will leave a photo ID with security personnel. The photo ID must meet the following specifications:

-Korean nationals age 18 or older will use their KID card. Korean nationals, between ages 5 and 18, may use a school pass or a Korean registration certificate as an acceptable means of photo ID.

how many visitors can be escorted at one time. Guests will await their sponsor's arrival in the visitor control center hallway.

-Visitors will be checked against

-Non-Koreans will use their alien registration card or any other form of photo ID issued by a government–for example, a driver's license.

-Passports will not be used in

leiu of an the ID. If the visitor has no other form of ID except a passport, or the visitor is less than 5 years old, the escort may leave his or her photo identification. Note: The visitor must still present either a passport or alien registration card as identification verification.

-The sponsor must read and sign the pass procedure letter. The sponsor must escort the visitor off the installation and the pass must be returned at that time. The sponsor must maintain control of the pass while escorting. Sponsorship of a guest may be transferred to another individual providing all parties return to the visitor control center to complete the necessary paperwork.

–Unescorted visitors or personnel without a valid pass will be detained for trespassing and released to the proper civilian authorities. Violators name and KID numbers will be taken and debarment action initiated. Sponsors leaving guests unattended will be cited for failure to maintain control of guests in accordance with USFK Reg 190-7.

(Information provided by the 8th Security Forces Squadron.)

Weapons Load Crew Of The Month Competition

Today at Hangar 3.

The 80th Fighter Squadron load crew will load at 11 a.m.
The 35th FS load crew will load at 1 p.m.
Awards ceremony is at 4 p.m. in Hangar 3.
All Wolf Pack members are invited to attend.